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October 31, 1996

Mr. Brian Murphy 2125 Overlook Drive Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Subject: Delta Fishing Screening Facilities

Dear Mr. Murphy:

Thank you for your October 11, 1996 letter concerning fish screening for Delta diversions.

Fish screening is a very high priority for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, as demonstrated by our three alternative solution programs which all include actions designed to screen all water diversions in the Delta.

A major focus of our Program Solution Alternatives is to screen the more than 1,500 privately owned agricultural diversions in the Delta, putting the highest priority first on the private diversions which have the most impact on the fishery. Your correspondence leads me to believe that you are not aware that the water diversions for the State and Federal Water Projects are currently screened. Recent studies, however, conclude that the effectiveness of the fish screens for the Project diversions can be improved by relocating a portion, or all, of the screened project diversions to locations which provide more stable operating conditions. Consequently, two of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Alternatives include proposals to relocate a portion of the Project's screens along with operational modifications which can further benefit the fishery.

We also recognize that there are "state of the art" improvements which can be made to enhance the protections for fish already provided at the State and Federal Project pumps. To that end, we have also included enhancements to the Project fish screens in the Program's proposed solution alternatives.

**CALFED Agencies** 

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

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I hope that this letter clarifies our approach to fish protection through screening of all diversions. Should you have questions or need more information, please feel free to call me, or Dick Daniel of our staff, at 657-2666.

sincerely,

Lester A. Snow

**Executive Director** 

cc: Linda Adams

David N. Kennedy

Steve Hall .